

NEW YORK  
DAILY NEWS

MAY 29 1964

*Doc 4-06.4 (King of Treason)*  
*Mr. Lonsdale, Arnold*  
*Miss: Houghton, Henry*  
*Miss: Gee, Elizabeth*

# British Spy Thriller On Beekman Screen

By KATE CAMERON

★ ★ ★ ½★

British film-makers have an adroit way of handling spy material as though the action had really happened. As a matter of fact, the dramatic story of "Ring of Treason" actually did take place in England in 1961 when Gordon Arnold Lonsdale, Peter and Helen Kroger, Henry Houghton and Elizabeth Gee were caught, after an intensive investigation by Britain's military intelligence division known as MI-5 and Scotland Yard's special branch, and were sentenced to prison for treason.

THE EXPERT handling of the plot by director Robert Tronson by way of a suspenseful screenplay written by Frank Launder and Peter Barnes is one of the film's chief assets. The players selected for the various characters involved in the operation fit so neatly into their roles that it is hard to believe they are actors and not the actual perpetrators of the crimes.

Released through Paramount, the British Lion production on the Beekman Theatre screen goes into the details of Henry Houghton's life as a minor cog in the British Foreign Office. It explains how he induced the spin-

"Ring of Treason," a Paramount release. Produced by Leslie Gilliat and directed by Robert Tronson from a screenplay by Frank Launder and Peter Barnes. Presented at the Beekman Theatre. Running time: 1 hour, 30 minutes.

## THE CAST:

Henry Houghton	_____	Bernard Lee
Alexander Lonsdale	_____	Wm. Sylvester
Elizabeth Gee	_____	Margaret Tyzack
Peter Kroger	_____	David Kossoff
Helen Kroger	_____	Nancy Nevinson
Comdr. Winters	_____	Thorley Walters
Marjorie Shaw	_____	Gillian Lewis
Lt. Downes	_____	Brian Nissen

sterish Elizabeth Gee, who worked in the same office with him in the British underwater establishment at Portland, to work with him by getting her emotionally involved with him. Elizabeth had access to the safe that held top secrets of British research on submarines and war weapons.

THE PAIR WORKED under the direction of Lonsdale and he, in turn, communicated with his



David Kossoff

Russian bosses through the electronic operations of the Krogers, whose front was the collection and sale of rare and precious books.

The action moves on the screen with precision and in a mounting atmosphere of tension that is exciting, from the moment that Houghton comes under suspicion until the agents of MI-5 and the Scotland Yard men converge on a rendezvous between Lonsdale, Houghton and Miss Gee, and later pick up the Krogers in their unpretentious suburban home.